



DEPAUL ACADEMY

Dedicated to improving the lives of youth, families and communities.



About Us

The DePaul Academy Program

DePaul Academy, located in the heart of South Bend, Indiana, shares a campus with the St. Joseph County Juvenile Justice Center. DePaul serves young men aged 14-18 who have mental health, substance abuse and/or behavioral needs. Utilizing a strengths-based approach, DePaul provides its youth with access to therapeutic services and diverse social and educational opportunities. Through a blend of evidence-based treatment, academic, vocational and extracurricular opportunities, young men are provided a normalized setting that fosters a culture of learning, growth and achievement.

Operated with over 35 years of experience

For over 35 years, Rite of Passage has incorporated best-practices, research and evidence-based methodologies to develop a trauma-informed, strengths-based paradigm that places youth at the forefront of their own personal growth, healing and recovery. It is this approach—offering at-risk youth a trauma-focused and therapeutic environment—that has allowed Rite of Passage to fulfill its mission of improving the lives of youth, families and communities.

Programming designed to promote learning, growth and positive change.

Safe Spaces

Well-trained staff form positive, pro-social relationships with the youth, fostering a nurturing and supportive environment. DePaul staff act as mentors and role models guiding the young men as they fulfill their treatment goals. Rich staff to youth ratios encourage the development of positive thought patterns, habits and skill sets that help our youth reintegrate into their home communities and lead successful lives.

Learning Environments

DePaul Academy uses a youth-centered philosophy to deliver a learning experience individualized to each of its students and their academic needs. Highly qualified teaching staff provide quality instruction in a classroom environment that fosters creative thinking, positive growth and academic excellence. Students graduate with more than a diploma—they leave with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful.

Places for Therapeutic Conversation

DePaul Academy provides its young men with individual, group and family therapy and comprehensive case management services based on each youth's individualized, prescriptive treatment plan. Treatment services include a variety of evidence-based curricula that provide the young men with targeted, cognitive-based interventions that address their specific risk and need factors, including a history of past trauma.

Family Connection and Community Engagement

Family and community involvement promote pro-social skills and responsibility. Youth receive unique opportunities to build relationships with their families and community members through meaningful philanthropy projects, partnerships with local organizations and educational field trips. Youth learn, grow and make a positive impact while engaging with the community.





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